

ABSTRACT

Method and apparatus for managing a communications network by graphically representing network elements within a network as a plurality of network element objects, graphically representing communications links

- 5 between two network elements as a bridge object and graphically representing the status of cross-connects within a network element as an icon displayed on each of said linked network element objects. The icon is a set of colors, each color corresponding to a particular connection state of each communication link within each network element.